

*Handwritten signature/initials*

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/600,416	
	Filing Date	June 19, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Claude L. RICKERD	
	Art Unit	3767	
	Examiner Name	Catherine Witczak	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	16	Attorney Docket Number	82410.0052/0B-048600US

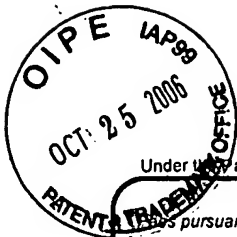
ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
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<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	Wiley Rein & Fielding LLP		
Signature	<i>Andrew P. Zager</i>		
Printed name	David J. Kulik/Andrew P. Zager		
Date	October 25, 2006	Reg. No.	36,576/48,058

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:			
Signature			
Typed or printed name		Date	

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PTO/SB/17 (01-06)

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Pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

# FEE TRANSMITTAL

## For FY 2006

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 200.00

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/600,416
Filing Date	June 19, 2003
First Named Inventor	Claude L. RICKERD
Examiner Name	Catherine Witczak
Art Unit	3767
Attorney Docket No.	82410.0052 / 0B048600US

**METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)**☐ Check ☒ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ None ☐ Other (please identify): \_\_\_\_\_☐ Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 50-1129 Deposit Account Name: \_\_\_\_\_

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

☒ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 ☒ Credit any overpayments

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**FEE CALCULATION (All the fees below are due upon filing or may be subject to a surcharge.)****1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES**

Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		Fees Paid (\$)
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	

**2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES****Fee Description**

Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)

Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)
50	25
200	100
360	180

Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)

Multiple dependent claims

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
- 20 or HP =	x	=	

HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.

Indep. Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
4 - 3 or HP =	1 x	200.00 =	200.00

HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.

**3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE**

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
- 100 =	/ 50 =	(round up to a whole number) x	=	

**4. OTHER FEE(S)**

Non-English Specification. \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBMITTED BY**

Signature		Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 36,576	Telephone 202-719-7313
Name (Print/Type)	David J. Kulik	Date	October 25, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/600,416 Confirmation No. 7010  
Applicant : Claude L. Rickerd  
Filed : June 19, 2003  
Title : CONNECTION ASSEMBLY FOR USE WITH SPLITTABLE  
SHEATH  
TC/A.U. : 3767  
Examiner : Catherine Witczak  
Docket No. : 82410.0052/0B-048600US  
Customer No. : 29693

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY AND AMENDMENT**

In response to the Office action dated July 25, 2006, Applicant respectfully  
requests reconsideration.

In light of the remarks below, Applicant submits that the application is in condition  
for allowance.

**Amendments** to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper. JADD01 00000028 10600416

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.

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